

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24, as follows:

~~it has been surprisingly discovered a~~ A highly useful absorbent article for garments and long garments having at least one removable wing has been surprisingly discovered. Such an absorbent article provides a wearer with at least one wing attached to the absorbent article or the wearer may optionally detach some or all the wings. In another embodiment of the present invention, wings may be added by the wearer to the absorbent article to provide additional protection against movement of the pantiliner. Thus, the present invention allows a wearer to individually decide whether to use from zero to three or more wings to secure the absorbent article of the present invention to thong garments.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 4, as follows:

The present invention is directed to an absorbent article with a silhouette having a first portion, a second portion, wherein the second portion being in opposite relation to the first portion, and a first longitudinally extending edge and a second longitudinally extending edge being in opposed relationship between the first portion to the second portion; a layered portion including an absorbent core and a backsheet; at least one wing laterally extending from the first longitudinally extending edge or the second longitudinally extending edge, wherein the wing is releasably attached to the first or second longitudinally extending edge.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 12, as follows:

The present invention is also directed to an absorbent article with a silhouette having a first end portion having a maximum width, a second end portion having a maximum width, wherein the second end portion being in opposite relation to the first end portion and the maximum width of the first portion is greater than the maximum width of the second end portion, and a first longitudinally extending edge and a second longitudinally extending edge being in opposed relationship between the first end portion to the end second portion; a layered portion including an absorbent core and a backsheet; at least one wing laterally extending from the first longitudinally extending edge or the second longitudinally extending edge, wherein the wing is releasably attached to the first or second longitudinally extending edge.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 22, as follows:

Alternatively, an attachment wing for securing ~~an absorbent article~~ a thong pantiliner to a garment with an upper surface including an absorbent article attachment means for

securing the attachment wing to the absorbent article and a lower surface comprising a garment attachment means securing the attachment wing to the garment.

Please replace the description of Figure 10 at page 4, lines 12-13, with the following:

Fig. 10 depicts a thong pantliner with various layers and two attachment wings.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 11, as follows:

Turning to the Figures, Figure 1 depicts an absorbent article according to the present invention. The overall shape of the absorbent article is such that it will fit comfortably within the confines of a thong garment. Referring to Figure 1, the absorbent article includes midsection 7 between a relatively wide first end portion 3 with a narrower second end portion 5. In particular, the maximum width 4 of the first portion 3 of the pantliner is greater than the maximum width of the second portion 8 of the second portion end 6 of the absorbent article. First end portion 3 is connected to second end portion 5 by a pair of opposed longitudinal edges 10 and 11. Figure 1 also depicts absorbent core 1 of the absorbent article on the body-facing surface of the absorbent article and backsheet 2 on the garment-facing side of the absorbent core.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 15, as follows:

Figures 4 and 8 show absorbent articles according to the present invention in which the removable wings 9 are staggered. One of the removable wings, 9a, is near to the second end portion end 6 of the absorbent article. Removable wing 9b is positioned more remote from the second end portion end 6. In use, removable wings 9a and 9b are folded over the edge of the thong garment, but do not overlap one another.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21, as follows:

Figures 9a-c illustrate an alternate embodiment of the invention. In this embodiment, wearers wishing to have more secure attachment of an absorbent article would affix at least one attachment wing 19 to the absorbent article. As shown in Figure 9a, attachment wing 19 is a separate piece from the absorbent article. Attachment wing 19 has upper surface 21 and lower surface 23. Outer surface of backsheet 2 and lower surface 23 of attachment wing 19 may contain garment attachment means 90, such as, be coated with an adhesive coating or other separable fasteners 90, such as, hook and loop, snap, button, zipper, and the like. Both surfaces 2 and 23 may be protected with a release paper strip until the time of use. After release paper has been removed from outer surface of the backsheet, upper surface 21 of attachment wing 19 is affixed into any desired position on the garment-facing side of the backsheet, e.g., surface 2. For example, it may be desirable to secure the attachment wing 19 adjacent to the second portion